

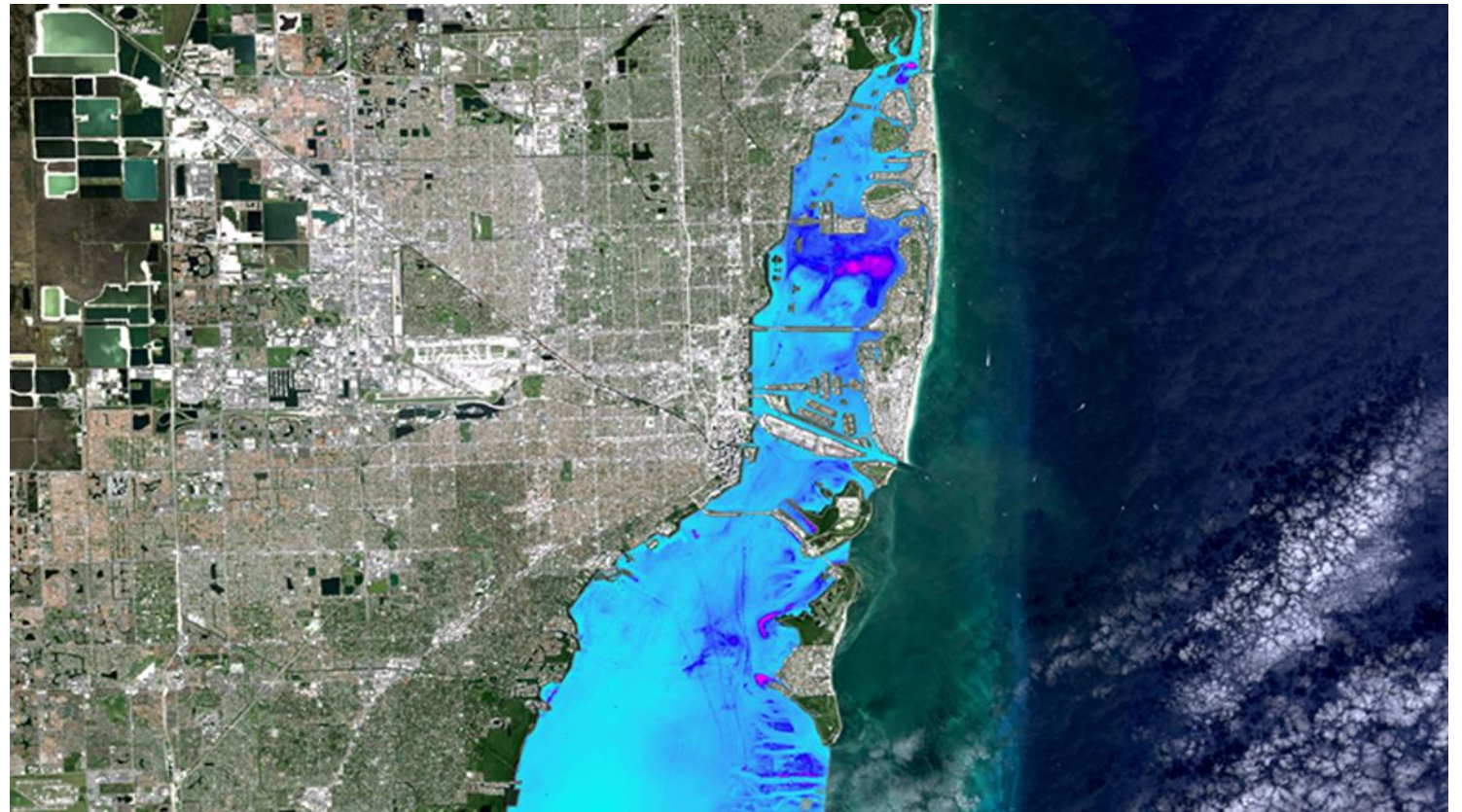
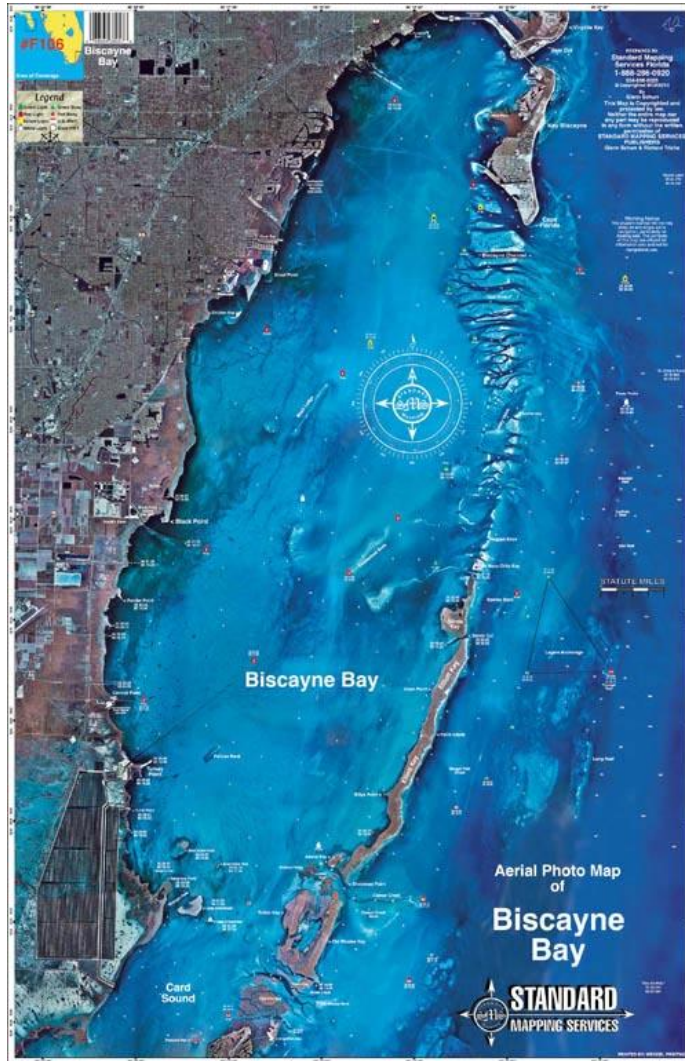
A person is snorkeling in clear, turquoise water. The water is very clear, showing the sandy bottom and some green seagrass. The person is wearing a snorkel mask and a life preserver. The sky is blue with white clouds. The text "Biscayne Bay Restoration Initiative" is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Biscayne Bay Restoration Initiative

T. Spencer Crowley III

Miami Dade County Commissioner to the
Florida Inland Navigation District

Biscayne Bay



Healthy Biscayne Bay



Biscayne Bay Protection

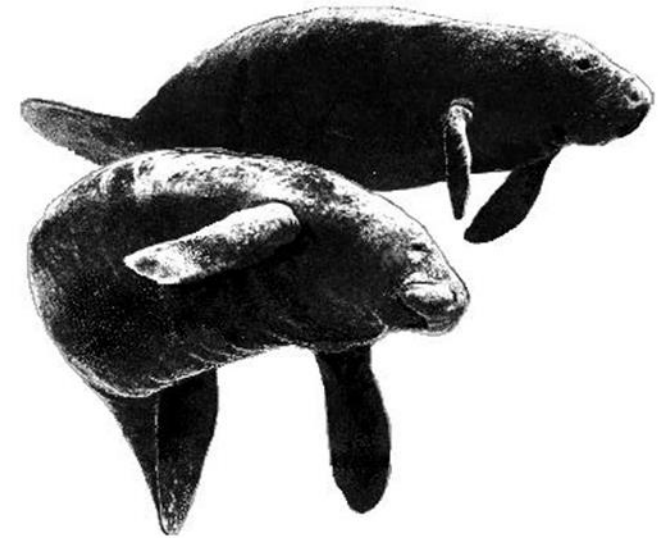
- 1974 – BBAP Established
- 1975 – BBAP Expanded South
- 1980 – BNP Established
- 1981 – DERM Biscayne Bay Management Plan
- 1985 – DERM Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program
- 1999 – BBPI Established and Convenes
- 2001 – BBRRCT Established
- 2013 – FDEP BBAP Management Plan

<https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/13120>

NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS NCCOS CCMA 145

National Status and Trends Program
for Marine Environmental Quality

Biscayne Bay:
Environmental History and Annotated Bibliography



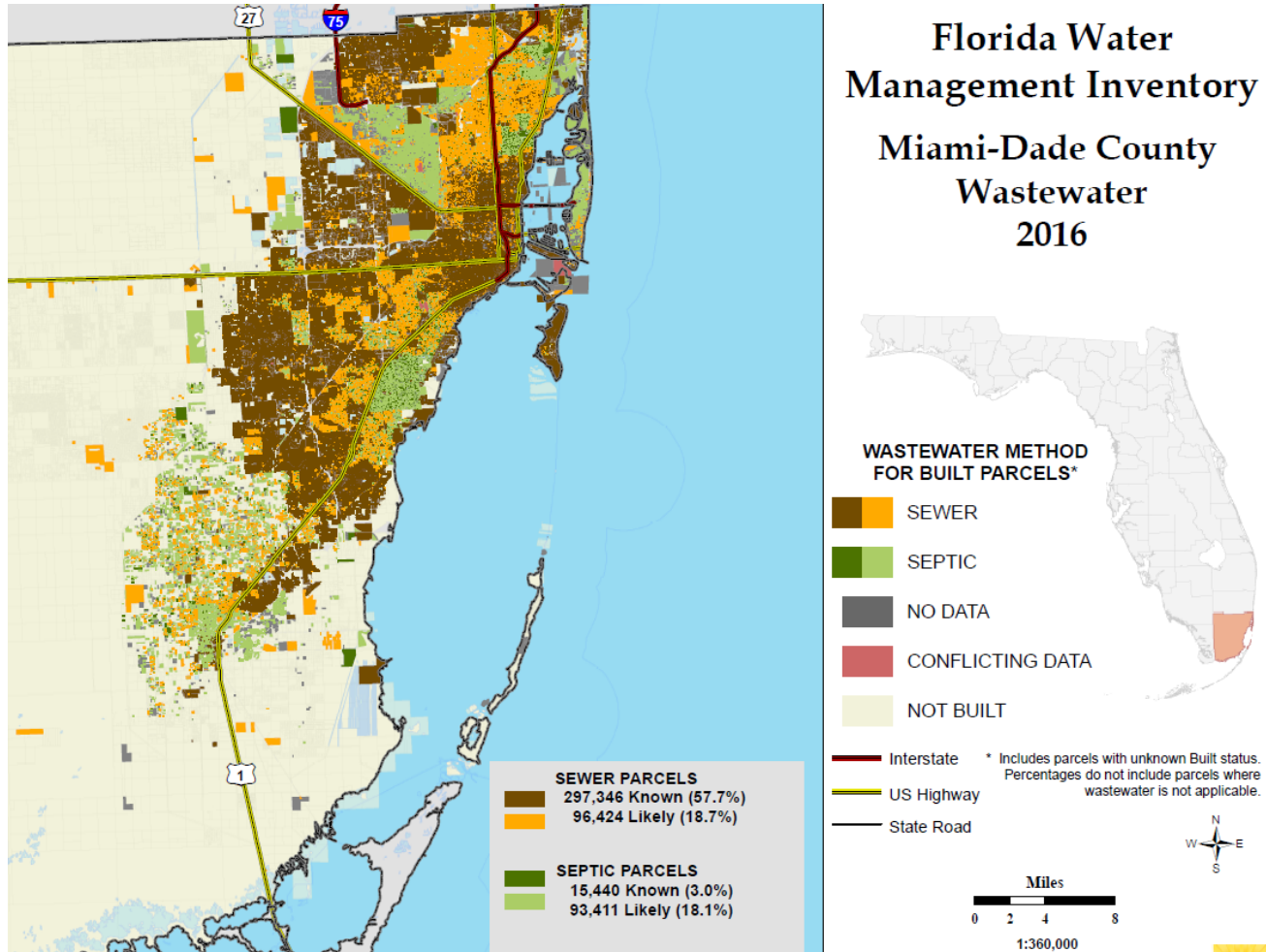
Silver Spring, Maryland
July 2000

US Department of Commerce

noaa NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment
National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
National Ocean Service

Regulation and Planning do not Equal Protection and Restoration



Storm Drains are Full of Trash



Seagrass Problems

Miami Herald

ENVIRONMENT

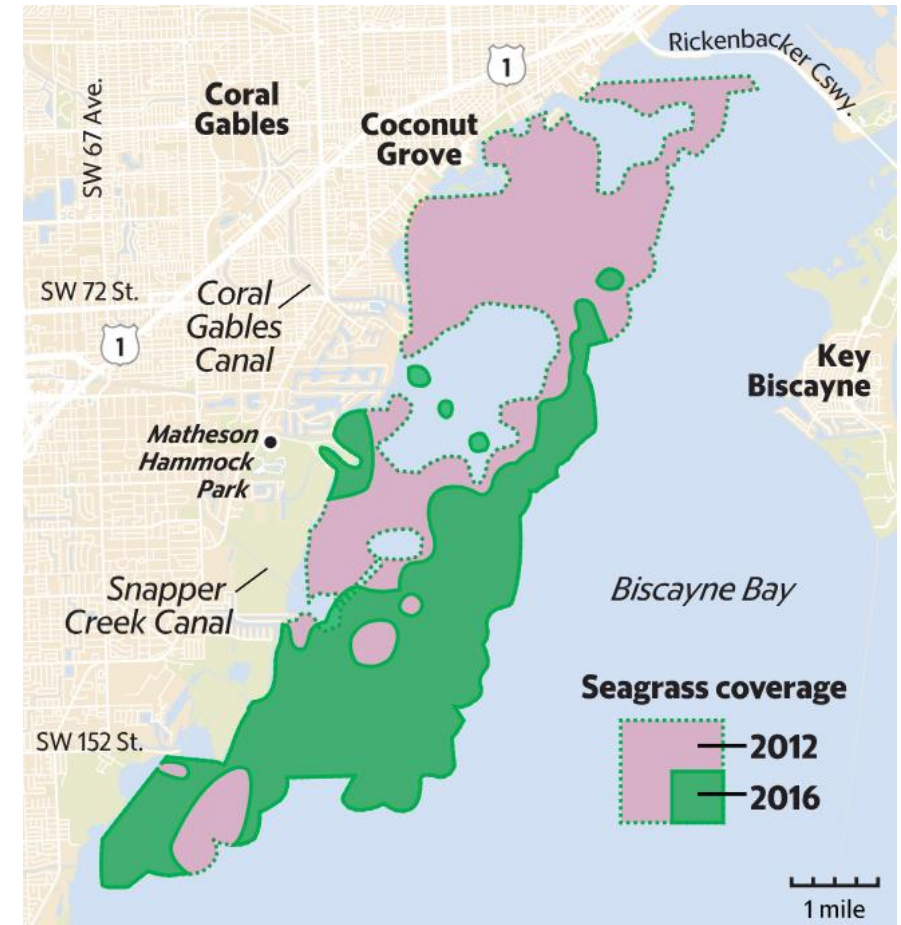
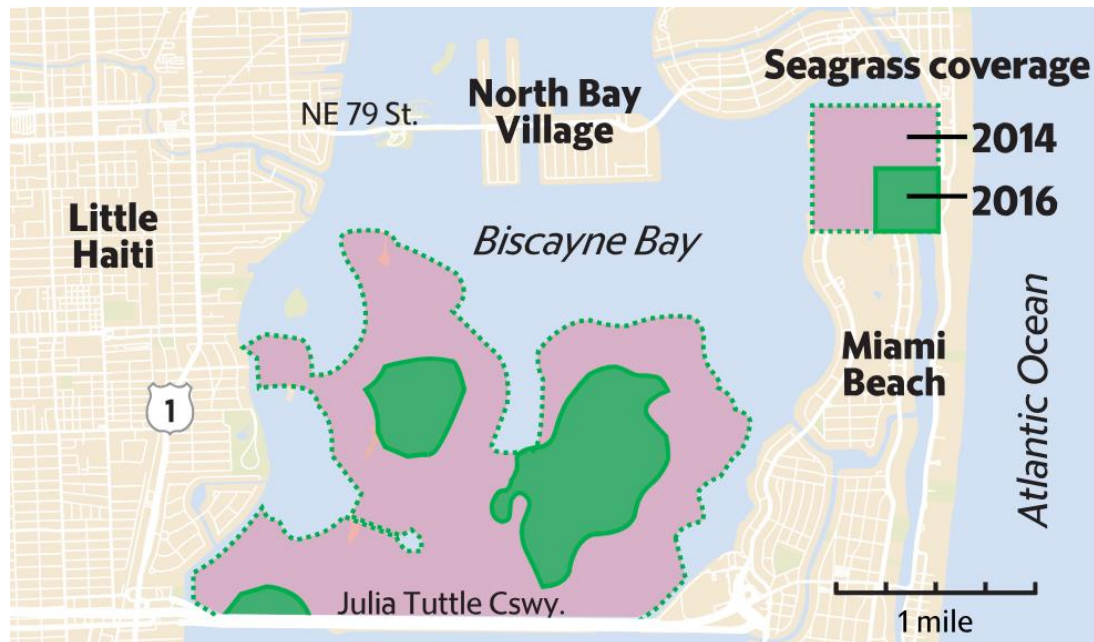
Seagrass keeps dying in Biscayne Bay. Is it getting too sick to recover?



BY JENNY STALETOVICH
jstaletovich@miamiherald.com



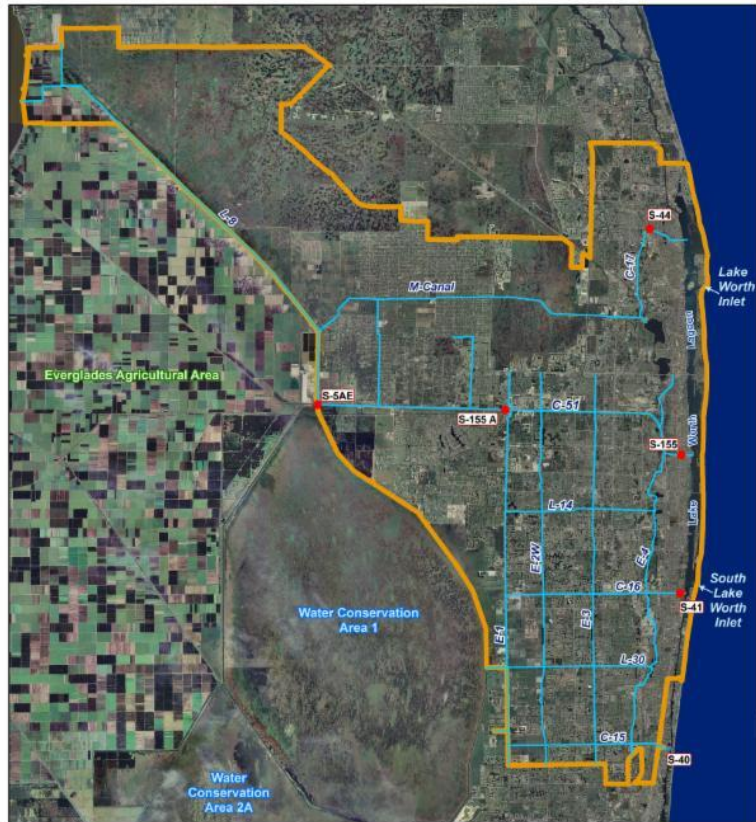
April 21, 2017 06:01 AM
Updated April 22, 2017 08:49 PM



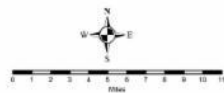
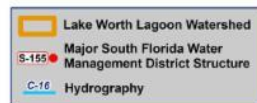
What do we do?

- Central Florida Water Initiative
- Indian River Lagoon Council - National Estuary Program
- Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
- Loxahatchee River
- Chesapeake Bay
- Lake Worth Lagoon in Palm Beach County

Lake Worth Lagoon - Sister “Estuary”



Lake Worth Lagoon Watershed



PalmBeachPost

Mayor, Leaders Swim To Protest Pollution

July 3, 1993 | By NEIL SANTANIELLO, Staff Writer

LAKE WORTH -- Mayor Rodney Romano swam across the Intracoastal Waterway on Friday to call attention to the problem of water pollution and the city's plans to add a storm water discharge fee to residents' [utility bills](#).

Accompanied by his brother, John, and other community [leaders](#), Romano, 39, swam across a wide portion of the waterway, known as Lake Worth, in a half-hour.

Two boats followed the group, which made the half-mile [swim](#) under a steady drizzle.

After reaching the boat ramp at Bryant Park, where 35 observers, including other city officials, had gathered, Romano described the water as "really yucky and ... nasty."

"I'll be drinking a bottle of Scope and flushing it through my sinuses," he said.

Romano, a lawyer, said his brother suggested the idea of him swimming across the lake to illustrate the city's commitment to clean storm water entering the Intracoastal.

Rain washes oil from driveways and fertilizer from lawns into city storm drains, which dump that tainted runoff into the waterway.

Canals add other pollutants by flushing nutrients from Everglades Agricultural Area farms into the same estuary.

City commissioners have voted to do their share to reduce pollution in the Intracoastal by tentatively approving a plan to charge city utility customers \$2.25 per month for stormwater drainage.

That fee would generate \$500,000 a year for Lake Worth.

The money would be used to buy new street sweepers to keep storm drains free of debris and improve the upkeep of city sewer lines, Romano said.

Businesses will be charged, too, but their fee will be based on the amount of impervious, or paved area, they have, Romano said. Businesses that own large paved parking lots could pay as much as \$600 a year, he said.

Grunge Plunge Leaves Mayor Ill

Lake Worth's Ramiccio Says Swim In Lagoon Landed Him In Hospital

October 3, 1998 | By NEIL SANTANIELLO Staff Writer

Lake Worth Mayor Tom Ramiccio says he may need a plastic bubble to [swim](#) the Lake Worth Lagoon again.

Ramiccio thinks the half-mile Plunge Against the Grunge he made on July 4 to call attention the lagoon's dirty water put him in a hospital for three days - and left him with a mysterious month-long [illness](#).

It's a very good example of why people shouldn't be in the water" said the mayor, who is 36 and runs a retail [business](#), Dixie Carpet. You're swimming in the largest toilet bowl in Palm Beach County."

Ramiccio, who is fully recovered now, says the trouble began three weeks after his dip in the lagoon, which is undergoing a \$52 million cleanup.

He said he developed an ear infection, followed by severe headaches and a stubborn fever that climbed to 103 degrees.

"I never get sick, not even a cold," Ramiccio said.

After visiting the emergency room at JFK Medical Center in Atlantis during the first week of August, he was admitted for three days, he said.

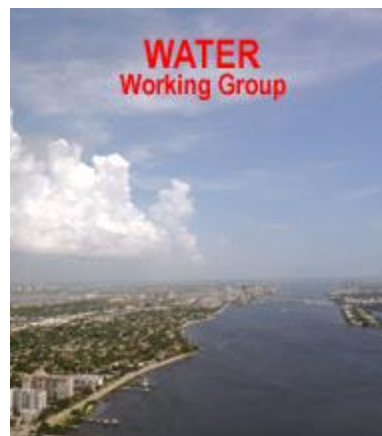
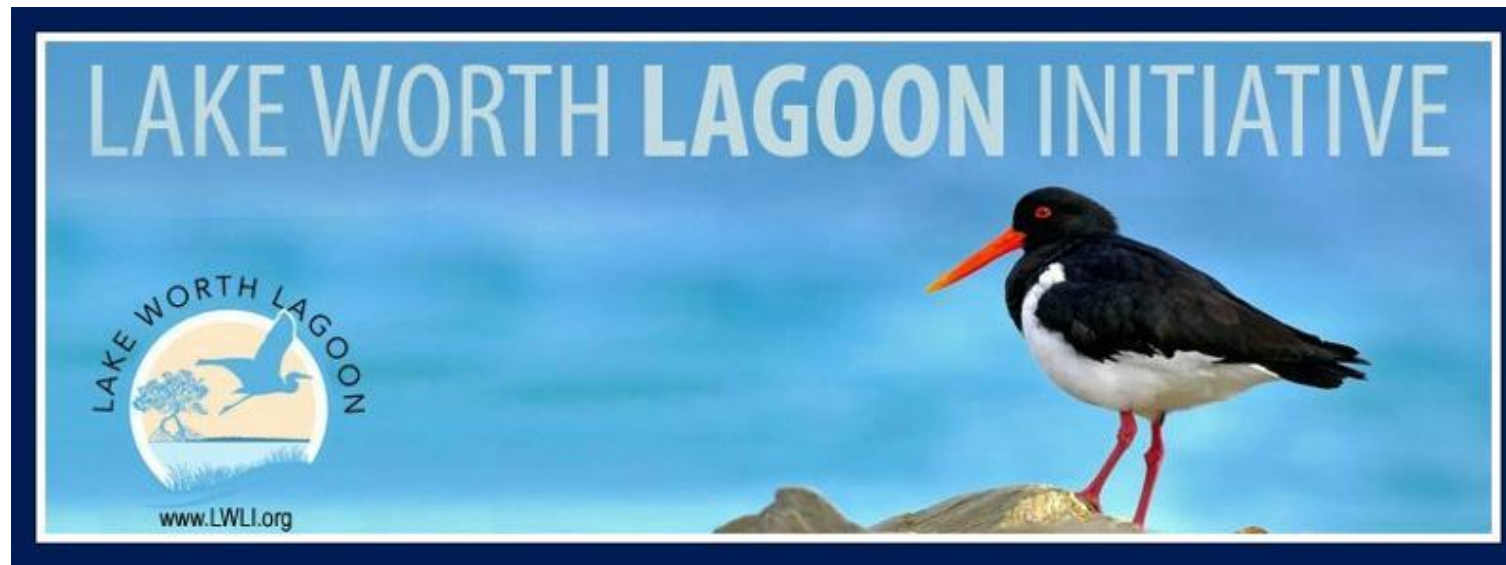
Doctors there concluded he had pneumonia but not a variety they knew well. They haven't been able to identify what type," Ramiccio said.

None of the other Plunge participants got sick, he said.

Palm Beach County public health officials say the lagoon, which stretches from Boynton Beach to Jupiter, is not an approved bathing area, with the exception of Phil Foster Park in North Palm Beach.

Frank Gargiulo, director of environmental health and engineering for the Palm Beach County Health Department, could not recall any other lagoon swimmer who linked the water to a serious illness. Water quality there changes constantly, so he plans no investigation right now, he said.

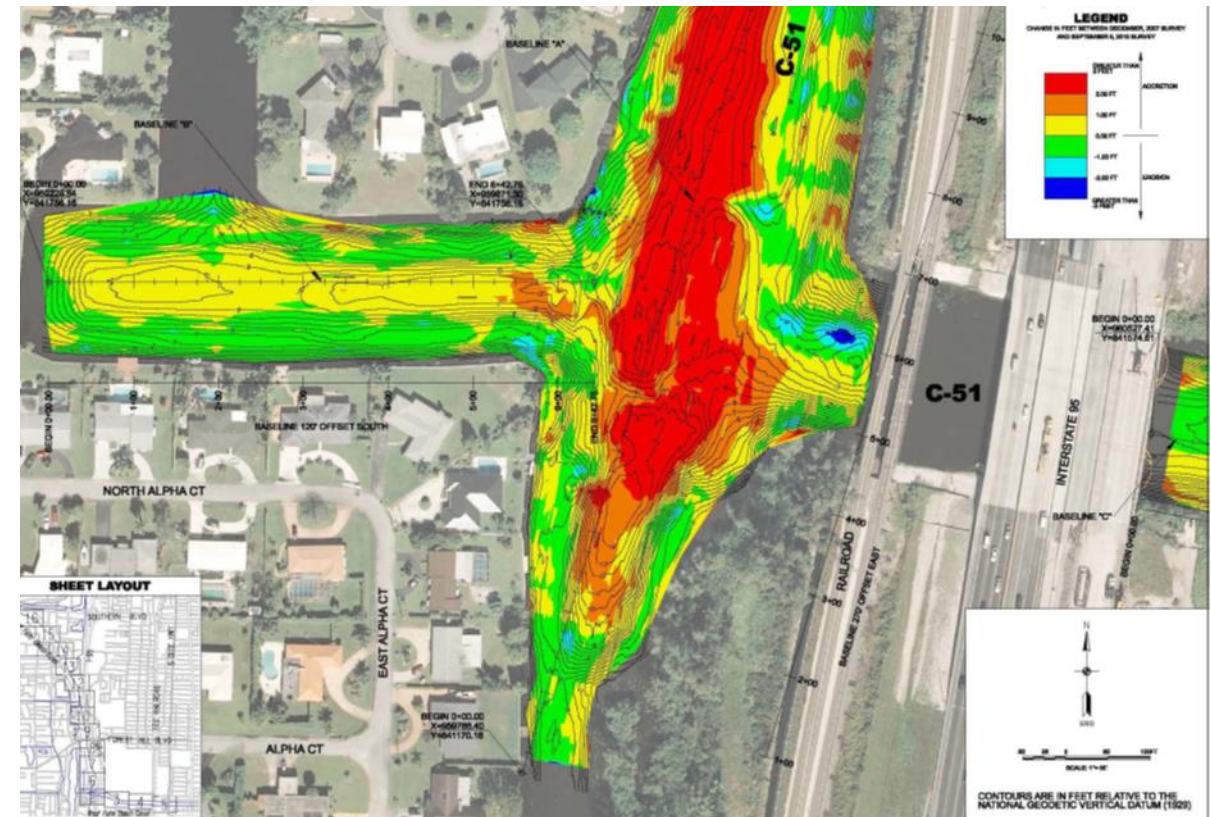
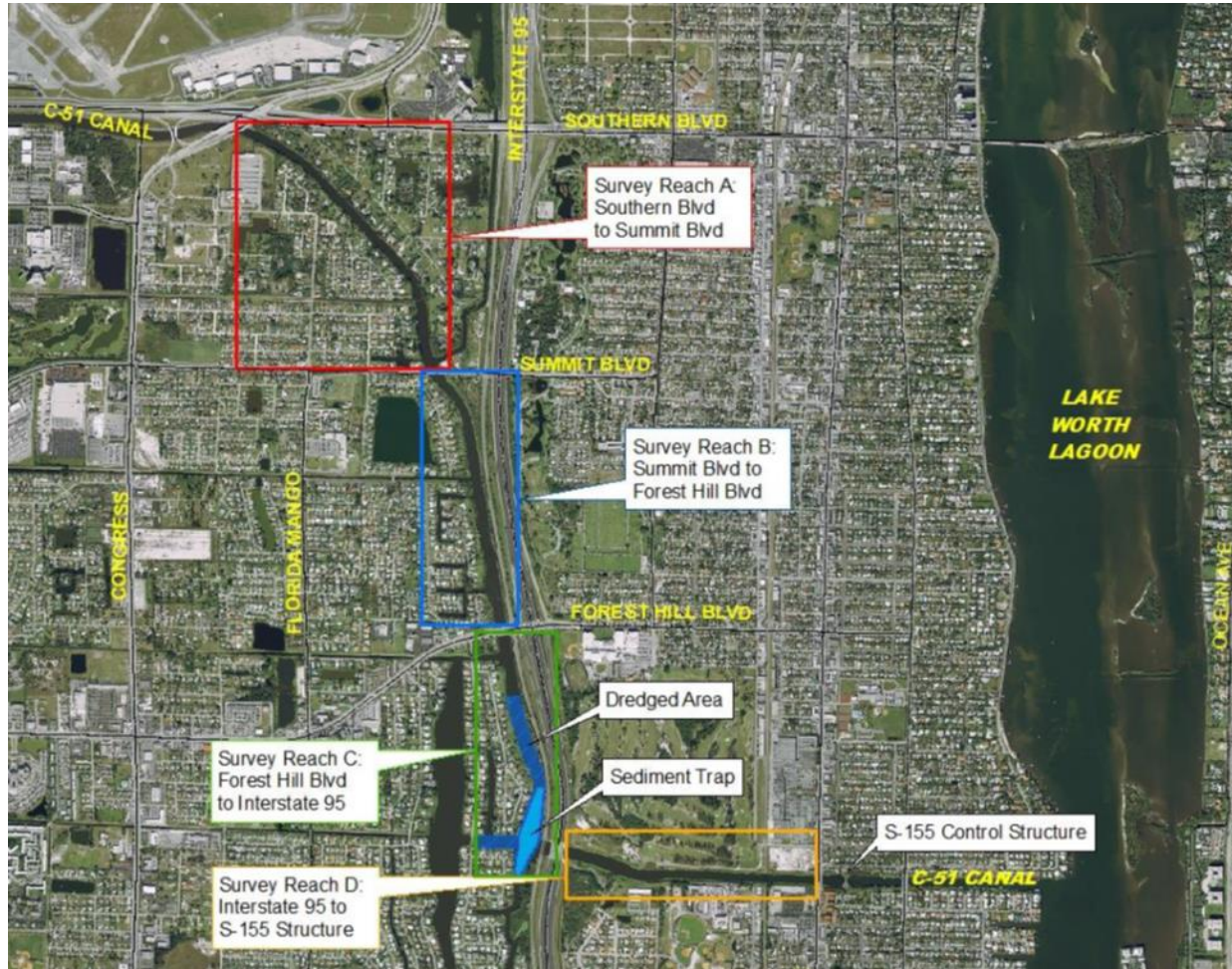




Purpose of the Steering Committee

- The LWLI Legislative Funding Request will be open from May 11, 2018 – August 3, 2018. Applications must be submitted by August 3, 2018.
- Applicants will be expected to provide the Committee a ten (10) minute presentation outlining the merits of the proposed project on August 16, 2018.
- The Committee will rank the selected projects by a formal vote. A final project list and ranking will be announced at the Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative Steering Committee meeting on September 19, 2018.
- The ranked project list will be recommended to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners for inclusion into its annual legislative agenda.
- Each LWLI member entity is also encouraged to adopt and support the LWLI legislative funding request.
- Funding becomes available July 1, 2019.

C51 – Sediment Trap



Stormwater Improvements



Septic to Sewer Conversions



Munyon Island



Grassy Flats



Johns Island



South Cove



Snook Islands



Snook Islands pier and boardwalk

Work began last week on a \$2 million public-access project just north of the Lake Avenue bridge that will include a fishing pier, floating docks for boats, a water taxi landing, a boardwalk leading to the Snook Islands Natural Area, a kayak launch and information kiosks.



Source: Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management

STEVE LOPEZ/Staff Artist

Living Shorelines



Snorkel Trail



Water Taxis





2017
lake worth
LAGOON
FISHING CHALLENGE

Cast a line, make your catch count and discover a local treasure.

May 26 - July 9, 2017

Grab your fishing gear, a smartphone or camera, and contribute to citizen science.

FREE TO PARTICIPATE

Enter your catch and you might win a prize!

For rules and details, go to www.LWLI.org/FishingChallenge



LAKE WORTH LAGOON INITIATIVE | www.LWLI.org

2018
lake worth
LAGOON
FISHING CHALLENGE



Biscayne Bay Restoration Initiative

- January 2017 – Letter to Dade delegation
- April 2017 Herald article regarding seagrass
- May 2017 – SFWMD Chair Fernandez presents to BBYC
- May 2017 – Meetings with DERM
- Summer 2017 – Meetings with stakeholders – Waterkeepers, MRC, Captain Dan, DERM, Levine-Cava
- July 2017 – Biscayne Bay Marine Health Summit
- September 2017 – legislation creating BBRI drafted
- November 2017 – BB Task Force legislation at Committee
- Late 2017/Early 2018 – Discussions with Harvey Ruvin and Stakeholders
- Summer 2018 – Reconciliation of Legislation

Questions/Discussion?

